

1. (Amended) A weatherized posting board assembly comprising:

a back frame enclosure having two side members, a top member and a bottom member, all integral at an interior edge with a back member, [the] said back member having interior and exterior surfaces and a rectangular perimeter; [, the] said back member exterior surface having a monolithic raised rectangular mounting brace means projecting rearwardly therefrom, [the] said rectangular mounting brace means adaptable for connection to at least two different vertical supports;

a posting board mounted on said [an] interior surface of said [the] back member;

a front cover hinged[ly connected] to said back frame enclosure, said [the] front cover having two side members, a top member and a bottom member, all integral at an interior edge with a transparent front panel, said two side, top, and bottom members of said front cover corresponding to [the] said two side, top, and bottom members of the back frame enclosure, the front cover [positionable] pivotal between open and closed positions, said two side, top, and bottom members of the front cover overlapping [the] said two side, top, and bottom members of the back frame enclosure when [the] said front cover is in the closed position, wherein the overlapping of said two side, top, and bottom members provides a substantially watertight enclosure for documents posted on said posting board.

2. The weatherized posting board assembly [device] of claim 1 wherein, [the]

said posting board [can be releasably, lockably secured] is releasable and lockable to said [the] interior surface of said back member.

3. The weatherized posting board assembly [device] of claim 1 wherein,

said rectangular mounting brace means has a pair of axially aligned recesses on opposite sides, [the] said aligned recesses sized to allow a post to be at least partially seated therein.

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4. The weatherized posting board assembly [device] of claim 1 wherein,

said rectangular mounting brace means has a plurality of raised portions protruding rearwardly therefrom, [the] said raised portions having keyhole slots formed therein thereby allowing connection of said rectangular mounting brace means to a corresponding plurality of connectors extending from a vertically extending surface.

5. The weatherized posting board assembly [device] of claim 1 wherein,

said entire front cover, including said two side, top, and bottom members, is made of a transparent material.

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claim 1 wherein,

6. The weatherized posting board assembly [device] of

said front cover has a locking mechanism secured thereto for locking said front cover to said back frame enclosure in said closed position thus providing security for documents posted on said posting board.

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as anticipated by Hindle. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Amended claim 1 now clearly contains structural features leading to functional advantages which are not shown or made obvious by Hindle alone or in combination with the prior art of record.

First, Hindle does not show or make obvious the "raised monolithic rectangular mounting brace means" presently claimed. The importance of this type of construction is twofold. The raised portion of the back wall provides a considerable strengthening effect thus allowing the material of the back wall to be considerably thinner than would be otherwise possible. The raised portion of the back wall also forms a strong and convenient general purpose mounting arrangement.

Second, Hindle does not show or make obvious the claimed overlapped top, bottom, and sides of the hinged cover over the back enclosure. Hindle's hinged cover abuts, rather than overlaps, the back enclosure in the closed